

This is an official
CDC Health Advisory

Distributed via Health Alert Network
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**Request for Reports of All Deaths among Children With
Laboratory-Confirmed Influenza Virus Infection**

During the 2003-04 influenza season, severe complications from influenza and influenza-associated deaths among children have been reported by several states.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) requests that health care providers report all deaths associated with laboratory-confirmed influenza virus infection among children younger than 18 years of age to their state health department. Contact information for each state health department is available on the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists' website http://www.cste.org/members/state_and_territorial_epi.asp.

State health departments are asked to report information about these fatal cases to CDC. A death is considered to be influenza-associated if a diagnosis of influenza has been made based on laboratory testing of clinical or autopsy specimens, by one or more of the following:

- a. Viral culture,
- b. Direct fluorescent antibody (DFA) staining,
- c. Reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR),
- d. Rapid influenza diagnostic test,
- e. Enzyme immunoassay (EIA),
- f. Immunohistochemical staining of autopsy tissue.

In addition, cases of influenza-associated encephalopathy in persons younger than 18 years of age should also be reported to the state health department.

Reporting

It is requested that all reports of deaths among children with laboratory-confirmed influenza virus infection be reported to State or district public health departments.

For more information, or to contact your state or local health department with a report, please use the following listing of both State and district public health department points of contact.

For additional information check the following websites:

Center for Disease Control and Prevention

www.cdc.gov/flu

SC Dept of Health and Environmental Control

www.scdhec.gov

(follow the links on the DHEC homepage for: "flu information" and "SC Health Alert Network")

District and Central Office Public Health Contacts

Call reports to the attention of: District Epidemiology/Disease Reports

Appalachia I

(Anderson, Oconee)
220 McGee Road
Anderson, SC 29625
Phone: 864-231-1966
Fax: 864-260-5623
Nights / Weekends: 866-298-4442

Appalachia II

(Greenville, Pickens)
PO Box 2507
200 University Ridge
Greenville, SC 29602-2507
Phone: 864-282-4139
Fax: 864-282-4373
Nights / Weekends: 864-460-5355 or
800-993-1186

Appalachia III

(Cherokee, Spartanburg, Union)
PO Box 4217
151 E. Wood Street
Spartanburg, SC 29305-4217
Phone: 864-596-2227 ext. 210
Fax: 864-596-3443
Nights / Weekends: 864-809-3825

Catawba

(Chester, Lancaster, York)
PO Box 817
1833 Pageland Highway
Lancaster, SC 29721
Phone: 803-283-3175
Fax: 803-283-0572
Nights / Weekends: 866-867-3886 or
888-739-0748

Edisto Savannah I

(Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell)
1680 Richland Avenue, W. Suite 40
Aiken, SC 29801
Phone: 803-642-1618
Fax: 803-642-1619
Nights / Weekends: 803-827-8668 or
800-614-1519

Edisto Savannah II

(Bamberg, Calhoun, Orangeburg)
PO Box 1126
1550 Carolina Avenue
Orangeburg, SC 29116
Phone: 803-533-7199
Fax: 803-536-9118
Nights / Weekends: 803-954-8513

Low Country

(Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, Jasper)
1407 King Street
Beaufort, SC 29902
Phone: 843-525-7603
Fax: 843-525-7621
Nights / Weekends: 800-712-6586

Palmetto

(Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry, Richland)
2000 Hampton Street
Columbia, SC 29204
Phone: 803-576-2749
Fax: 803-576-2993
Nights / Weekends: 803-304-4252

Pee Dee

(Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marlboro, Marion)
145 E. Cheves Street
Florence, SC 29506
Phone: 843-661-4830
Fax: 843-664-4853
Nights / Weekends: 843-660-8145

Trident

(Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester)
4050 Bridge View Drive, Suite 600
N. Charleston, SC 29405
Phone: 843-746-3832
Fax: 843-746-3851
Nights / Weekends: 843-219-8470

Upper Savannah

(Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Saluda)
PO Box 3227
1736 S. Main Street
Greenwood, SC 29646
Phone: 888-218-5475
Fax: 864-942-3690
Nights / Weekends: 800-420-1915

Waccamaw

(Georgetown, Horry, Williamsburg)
2830 Oak Street
Conway, SC 29526-4560
Phone: 843-365-3126
Fax: 843-365-3153
Nights / Weekends: 843-381-6710

Wateree

(Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee, Sumter)
PO Box 1628
105 North Magnolia Street
Sumter, SC 29150
Phone: 803-773-5511
Fax: 803-773-6366
Nights / Weekends: 877-831-4647

State Health Department Bureau of Disease Control

Acute Disease Epidemiology Division
1751 Calhoun Street
Box 101106
Columbia, SC
Phone: 803-898-0861
Fax: 803-898-0897

**Statewide (24/7) emergency pager for
Nights / Weekends: 1-888-847-0902**

Categories of Health Alert messages:

Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.